

OWS Partner Agency Actions for Cold Weather Response

Participating agencies will activate special actions when the following occurs. The National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Advisory; wind chill from -15 to -24 degrees, F, or a Wind Chill Warning; wind chill from -25 degrees F or more, or when wind is not a factor, if the air temperature is expected to drop to 15 degrees F or lower.

OWS Agency Responsibilities

1. Each agency will take the responsibility to monitor the National Weather Service's (NWS) forecast to learn of weather watches and warnings. This will eliminate the need for a "call tree" process. The NWS representative to OWS will keep OWS members aware of possible advisories/watches/warnings through e-mails or telephone calls whenever possible.
2. Each OWS agency and community partner has documented certain actions that will take place to prepare for cold weather and during the winter months. See below and the back of this page for a list of those actions.

Preparing for the Cold Weather Season

- **2-1-1** (Throughout the year)
 - Proactively suggest "weatherization programs" to callers seeking financial assistance.
- **OWS Membership** (In October/November)
 - Update Cold Weather media information and fact sheets for community outreach and education
 - Respond to requests to attend community fairs and make available a speaker's bureau on an as needed basis.
 - Proactively involve other agencies, organizations, news media and faith based groups, etc. to increase awareness of the dangers of excessive cold and to partner in an effort to save lives.
 - Review current "Cold Weather Rule" and Energy Assistance Programs
- **Health Department:**
 - ⇒ St. Louis City – Rhonda Bartow (314-612-5271)
 - ⇒ St. Louis County – Dr. H. Douglas Adams (314-615-1601)
 - ⇒ St. Charles County – Cameron Satterfield (636-949-7408)
 - ⇒ Jefferson County – Dennis Diehl (636-789-3372 x104)
 - Confirm and update protocols
 - Work with OWS Communications Committee to update media information and fact sheets on the dangers of excessive cold weather.
- **St. Louis City Neighborhood Stabilization Office:**
 - ⇒ Coordinated through City of St. Louis Department of Human Services
 - Alert NSO's to review procedures for identifying cold related situations, available resources to receive assistance and to get information about the dangers of excessive cold and available resources out to residents during neighborhood meetings.
- **Community Action Agencies:**
 - ⇒ HDC; CAASTL; NECAC; Jefferson/Franklin CAA

- Mail LIHEAP applications to a) seniors; b) disabled; c) others who received assistance previous heating season
- **Weatherization Programs:**
 - ⇒ CAASTL; Energycare “Heat is On” Program; NECAC; JFCAC; Senior Home Services, Inc.; Urban League (St. Louis City);
 - Conduct “energy audits” of homes; provide weatherization; education on energy conservation and may help with minor repairs of furnaces.

Responding to Cold Weather

- **Health Department:**
 - ⇒ St. Louis City – Rhonda Bartow (314-612-5271)
 - ⇒ St. Louis County – Dr. H. Douglas Adams (314-615-1601)
 - ⇒ St. Charles County – Cameron Satterfield (636-949-7408)
 - ⇒ Jefferson County – Dennis Diehl (636-789-3372 x104)
 - Begin surveillance, monitoring morbidity and mortality, due to severe cold weather
- **St. Louis Area Agency on Aging (SLAAA) (St. Louis City)**
 - ⇒ Anneliese Stoever (314-612-5917); Kelli McCurdy (314-612-5916)
 - Monitor health conditions of seniors/disabled who receive home delivered meals
 - Educate “at risk” seniors/disabled on community resources including weatherization
- **Mid East Area Agency on Aging (MEAAA) (St. Louis County)**
 - ⇒ Lisa Beatty (636-207-0847 x 103)
 - Monitor health conditions of seniors/disabled who receive home delivered meals
 - Educate “at risk” seniors/disabled on community resources including weatherization
- **County Older Residents Program (CORP)**
 - ⇒ Ellen Sherman (314-615-4559)
 - Provide seniors with telephone reassurance program in St. Louis County
- **Catholic Charities – Housing Resource Center**
 - ⇒ 314-802-5444
 - Maintain database of area shelters, provide referral and gather statistical information
 - Provide street “outreach” to locate homeless persons, offer shelter, blankets, etc.
 - Will be notified by City of St. Louis Department of Homeless Services if “overflow” shelters will be operational in cooperation with the Salvation Army.
- **St. Patrick’s Center**
 - ⇒ 314-802-0700
 - Provide lunch to homeless persons and respite from the cold during the day only
 - Provide blankets and/or coats to homeless
 - Activate “mobile outreach” in collaboration with Housing Resource Center
- **Media Response (Other partners may be referred to, as appropriate)**
 - ⇒ Health Department(s) – issue press releases
 - ⇒ Debbie Fagin – United Way of Greater St. Louis – OWS Chairperson (314-242-1801)
 - ⇒ United Way of Greater St. Louis Communications Department (Carrie Zukoski – 314-539-4029 will issue press releases when requested)

- ⇒ AmerenUE, Laclede Gas and National Weather Service will issue press releases and have information available to the public about cold weather and Operation Weather Survival on their websites